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Macintosh: Video Digitizers

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TOPIC -----

This article describes two video digitizers available for the Macintosh.

DISCUSSION -----

MacVision 2.0

MacVision 2.0 Video digitizer, from Koala Technologies, offers 256 shades of gray and 640 x 480 resolution. It runs on a 512K or later Macintosh.

MacVision allows a user to put digitized pictures and graphics into a Macintosh, or take video images from a VCR or laserdisc player.

Here are the features of MacVision:

- Accepts any video source
- Images both flat and three-dimensional objects
- Ten different scanning techniques
- Compatible with all major software
- Works as both a desk accessory and a desktop application

ComputerEyes

ComputerEyes Video digitizer, from Digital Vision, Inc., runs on a 512KE or later Macintosh, and requires 1MB of RAM.

ComputerEyes is a hardware and software system that digitizes images from any standard video source (video camera, VCR, videodisc, and others). Under software control, the system scans the video signal and captures images into the graphics memory of the computer. It then displays images on

the screen, and allows modification with several image-manipulation options. Images are saved to disk for use with other graphics programs.

The ComputerEyes system software supports the graphics capabilities of all Macintosh computers. On a Macintosh II, images display with 256 grays for a near-photographic image. On other Macintosh systems, images display with several options of dither patterns to maximize image quality for all types of images.

Captured images may be saved to disk in a number of formats independent of the computer's display capabilities. Formats supported by ComputerEyes include MacPaint, PICT, gray-scale, and bit-mapped TIFF and Encapsulated PostScript.

With these file formats, ComputerEyes images can be imported to graphics programs, desktop publishing programs, image databases, drawing or painting programs, authoring systems, and animation programs for image display or printing.

Contact Information

You can find the addresses and phone numbers for Digital Vision and Koala Technologies in separate articles in the Tech Info Library.

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